

Southeast News

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UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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NUMBER 2

CHRISTMAS FOR TWELVE DAYS?



We can almost hear someone saying, "What kind of new-fangled idea is that — celebrating Christmas for twelve days?!"

Far from being new, the idea is an old one which has proved to be very relevant in our speeded-up time. As suggested by a midwest pastor a few years ago, there are many considerations which lie behind "stretching out Christmas":

The medieval celebration of Christmas took twelve days, from the traditional birth-day of Jesus to the traditional time of the Wise Men's visit, with the Christmas season of twelve days ending at Epiphany.

Christmas

vides too brief a time to absorb the astounding message of the Incarnation. The time prior to Christmas Day has become overburdened with commercial interests, while the days after Christmas are often empty of Christian observances. The church that puts Christmas Eve services as a climax enters into heavy competition with formidable opposition.

3. We have usually confused the birth of Jesus with the Wise Men's offering of gifts, although historically and liturgically they are different events. God's gift to us in Christ is properly celebrated through several days, climaxing with our response in sharing gifts both with those we love and with the "least" who are also our brothers.

4. Many churches are empty and dark on Christmas Day. How ironic, when Jesus came to be "the Light of the world"!

5. School vacations mean that children and youth have some free time following Christmas Day. Since non-Christian activities centering on Christmas are past, Christian activities might begin in earnest.

WHAT CHURCHES CAN DO

Although it is too late to consider all the implications of the foregoing for a 1971 celebration, a few suggestions might be followed now, with planning for a more meaningful celebration in 1972:

1. AN ADVENT WORKSHOP can be fun and meaningful. At such events some churches make Advent booklets for use by families, as well as simple home or church decorations reflecting a "Christian message; participants of all ages may learn and sing some Advent hymns or carols, set up a church Christmas creche, prepare candles and cards to be taken to shut-ins by carolers, etc. This can be a real family occasion. A carry-in supper would be appropriate provided a minimum of time is spent on preparations and dishwashing.

2. ON CHRISTMAS EVE, or a few days before, decorate the sanctuary and other parts of the building with greens and other traditional and contemporary Christian Christmas symbols. A brief service can be held, using some great traditional or contemporary music.

3. CHRISTMAS DAY — MORNING OR LATE AFTERNOON OR EARLY EVENING SERVICE. If this is impossible, at least light the inside of the church at night around Christmas time; perhaps also have a 24-hour prayer vigil for peace.

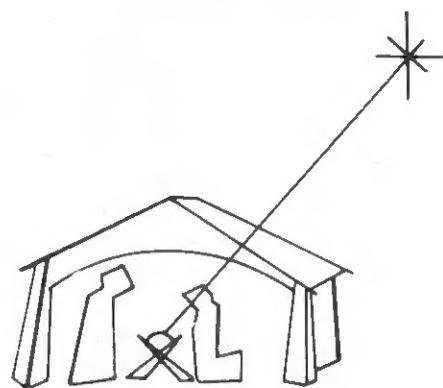
4. SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS — CHOIR PROGRAM OF CHRISTMAS MUSIC in the afternoon or early evening.

5. THE FOLLOWING WEEK, A CHILDREN'S PROGRAM of games and perhaps an original puppet show.

6. NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY FOR TEEN-AGERS which they plan and lead.

7. Some day or evening before January 6, SOME CHRISTMAS OR EPIPH-

(Continued on Page 5)



BIRTH

B'rh never comes easily or suddenly. Away from home, in a stable on a back street, Mary gave birth to Jesus. At long last, God had come in the Babe of Bethlehem. Angels rejoiced, wise men followed the stars, shepherds were frightened. "The hopes and fears of all the years" were met in that birth that night.

Strangely enough, two thousand years later, millions of people pay heed to that birth.

Birth — of a baby whose time has come or of an idea in a dream come true — still causes excitement, joy, hope, as well as fear and anxiety.

Has any kind of birth happened in your church this year? In many churches, no birth of a person or of an idea has occurred and the church has grown stale.

For two years Southeast Conference leaders, in cooperation with national church leaders, have dreamed, prayed and planned for a better ministry among the church and in the world. A glimmer of hope appears. "A Conference Team Ministry" may be a way. Not only would Conference staff be located in the several areas of the Conference, but a team of clergy and lay leaders committed to be "His servants in the service of men" and to "proclaim the gospel to all the world" is a possibility.

May the good news that was in the birth of Jesus be yours this Christmas and in the years ahead.

W. J. Andes — Emilie Pitcock
Mrs. Carl Henry — Mrs. Truman
Moore.



December 1971

Sunday, Dec. 5 — Second Sunday in Advent; Health & Welfare Sunday.
Friday, Dec. 10 — Human Rights Day.
Sunday, Dec. 12 — Third Sunday in Advent.
Saturday & Sunday, Dec. 18 & 19 — SEC YOUTH officers, Nashville.
Sunday, Dec. 19 — Fourth Sunday in Advent.
Saturday, Dec. 25 — CHRISTMAS DAY.

January 1972

Saturday, Jan. 1 — New Year's Day.
Sunday, Jan. 2 — Sunday nearest Epiphany.
Thursday, Jan. 6 — EPIPHANY.
Sunday, Jan. 9 — First Sunday after Epiphany.
Monday, Jan. 10 — 11 A. M., Ministers' Convocation Committee;
 3 P. M., Church and Ministry Commission, both at Atlanta.
Tuesday, Jan. 11, 4 P. M. - Thursday, January 13, 12 noon, Pastors of aided field churches, Berry College, Rome, Ga.
Saturday, Jan. 15, Martin Luther King Jr. birthday.
 10:30 A. M., SEC Education Commission meeting, Atlanta.
Sunday, Jan. 16 — Second Sunday after Epiphany.
Tuesday, Jan. 18 — Tuesday, Jan. 25 — Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.
Sunday, Jan. 23 — Third Sunday after Epiphany.
Sunday, Jan. 30 — Fourth Sunday after Epiphany.
 3 P. M., North Alabama Youth meet at Caddo Church, Trinity.

BE REMINDED

The Office for Audio-Visuals has announced a change of address for securing film rentals. All film rental requests should now be directed to Office for Audio-Visuals, United Church of Christ (rentals), 600 Grand Avenue, Ridgefield, New Jersey, 07657, (201) 945-7060, or 512 Burlington Avenue, LaGrange, Illinois, 60525, (312) 352-1535.

Get It All Together... And Send It In!

December is always a busy month which passes quickly. Before the month gets away from you be sure you have fulfilled your financial commitment to your church. Why? It's as simple as the old story about the war that was lost "for want of a nail."

Your local church treasurer needs your final contribution before he can send your congregation's final check to the Conference office.

And your Conference treasurer needs your congregation's final check before he can forward to the appropriate recipients their final checks and thus complete your Conference's 1971 program "paid in full."

While you are "getting it all together" so far as your 1971 giving is concerned, perhaps you'll also want to give a holiday sendoff to your plans for 1972. Church organizations . . . women's guilds, fellowship groups and the like . . . often end the year with cash in the bank. Putting such money to work in some aspect of mission . . . locally or throughout the world . . . is a little like the man in Jesus' story who used his talents rather than buried them. So get it all together . . . and send it in!

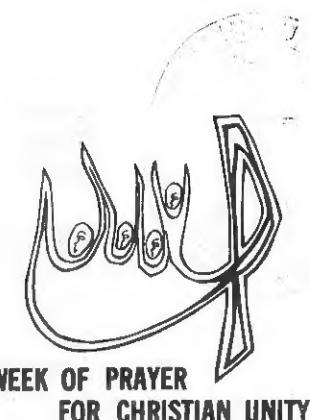
Drama In The Pulpit: Pastor Dons Blanket

On a recent Sunday in Springfield, Mass., the Rev. Eric W. Bascom, Jr., pastor of Faith Congregational Church U.C.C., cast aside his robe and entered his pulpit wrapped in a blanket. "My purpose," said Mr. Bascom, "was to help dramatize not only the need for blankets around the world, but also to help enlighten all present about the plight of the world's hungry."

Bibliography On Formation Of U. C. C. Is Published

Dr. Hans Peter Keiling of Silliman University of the Philippines has published a bibliography titled *The Formation of the United Church of Christ, U.S.A.*

According to Prof. Keiling, the bibliography seeks to "give a systematically-arranged compilatory listing of source materials pertaining to the formation of the United Church of Christ. It endeavors to aid church historians, ecumenists, librarians and others studying the union of the Congregational Christian Churches and the Evangelical and Reformed Church."



January 18-25

What would happen if we were to observe *this* Week of Prayer for Christian Unity by celebrating a Liturgy for a Divided Household, with the Lord's Supper as an integral component. Let me prophesy a bit. For some Christians scandal would be alleviated, the scandal of continued omission of that Meal as having any bearing on either unity or prayer. They would happily gather, and in both repentance and faith they would focus on their newfound unity as they eat the Holy Bread and drink the Sacred Cup.

Some churches would withdraw from the observance, reiterating their positions that the Eucharist can only be the full expression of perfect unity. Others might consider seriously that since the churches are drawing nearer to one another it is now time to celebrate the unity we do have, incomplete though it is; and that it would take on a proper perspective in a service which recognized honestly that not only is the Church divided but all our separate households are as well.

Even those Christians in churches which have a policy of open communion and which warmly endorse such a service would be challenged to see whether they can honestly eat at the Lord's Table if they make no consistent efforts to work at achieving unity wherever it has been ruptured.

But for many — most? — Christians it would make little difference one way or the other, not because we have low regard for Holy Communion, but simply because its meaning to corporate unity, the unity of the Body of Christ, is not very often any consideration of ours.

—Sister Ann Patrick Ware, S. L.
 Assistant Director
 Commission on Faith and Order
 National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.

O. G. H. S. Through A Child's Eyes

Have you heard about the great new opportunity for church school children to participate in the "One Great Hour of Sharing?" It's a nationwide Art Project for 1972.

Here's how the art project works: In January and February, children are urged to create some art work that will express their own ideas about the One Great Hour of Sharing.

You can then display these as an art exhibit to your congregation on the Sundays of Lent, (Feb. 20-Mar. 26) making clear that the purpose of the exhibit is to focus attention on the meaning and importance of this special Lenten offering. Ask viewers to examine each entry carefully to learn what the artist is saying about O.G.H.S.

Your church may want to send the best five pieces of art work of this exhibit to be part of a National Exhibit. If so, send such items, carefully packed, to the Stewardship Council, 1505 Race St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19102, for display at the Interchurch Center in New York City, beginning March 20, 1971. From these some items of art will be chosen for use in the 1973 One Great Hour of Sharing publicity materials.

Interested? Then start to plan now. Detailed suggestions are available from the Stewardship Council.

SOUTHEAST NEWS Subscriptions Due

If you have not renewed your *Southeast News* subscription in the past six months (\$1.00 per year will not break you unless you are already broke), this is the time. Under a revised plan, all subscriptions, except a few which have been paid for in advance, will expire at the end of December 1971. Those renewed from now through December will expire at the end of 1972.

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UCC Condemns Reader's Digest Attack

The Executive Council of the United Church of Christ has condemned a recent *Reader's Digest* attack on the World Council of Churches and called upon the magazine "to rectify the wrong it has done to oppressed peoples of the world and to the World Council of Churches and its members."

The United Church agency termed the article, which appeared in the October issue of the *Digest*, "misleading and irresponsible in its allegations and conclusions."

The Executive Council action was taken in accordance with a resolution adopted by the UCC General Synod last June which called for support of "the humanitarian programs of Southern African liberation organizations through the World Council of Churches," especially the Programme to Combat Racism.

The *Digest* piece, entitled "Must Our Churches Finance Revolution?", charged that the World Council's \$500,000 program to combat racism is being used to "finance revolution in the United States and Africa."

Action of the Executive Council was announced here by the Rev. Dr. Robert V. Moss, New York, President of the United Church of Christ.

In a letter to the 6,727 U.C.C. congregations, Dr. Moss praised the World Council of Churches for its humanitarian activities.

"The World Council of Churches has devoted an important segment of its efforts to the relief of human suffering and to opposing injustice and denial of human and civil rights," Dr. Moss wrote. "In this work, it has conformed to the practice that has been common to all churches throughout the history of Christianity. It

below; do it now to avoid disappointment.

Also, we like news. If you have not seen any from your church or association, appoint yourself a committee of one to gather it and send it in.

is entirely in line with long-accepted World Council of Churches policy that in 1971 the Council established a \$500,000 special fund to combat racism.

"No money given by the World Council of Churches is being used to pay for acts of violence or for the preparation of such acts. This stricture has been understood by all groups that applied for the grants," Dr. Moss stated.

He pointed out that grants made by the WCC program to combat racism are being used for social welfare, medical and educational purposes among refugees from white-dominated Southern African nations and for informational programs opposing apartheid.

The 54-member Executive Council of the United Church is composed of clergy, and lay men and women. It conducts business for the church between meetings of the General Synod.

Following is the text of the resolution:

The Executive Council of the United Church of Christ, in accordance with the resolution adopted by the Eighth General Synod affirming and supporting the Programme to Combat Racism of the World Council of Churches, rejects and condemns the attack of the *Reader's Digest* on this program as being misleading and irresponsible in its allegations and conclusions, and reaffirms support of the World Council of Churches in its humanitarian endeavors. The Executive Council calls upon the *Reader's Digest* to rectify the wrong it has done to the oppressed people of the world and to the World Council of Churches and its members by providing space for an adequate report of the Programme to Combat Racism and of programs for draft exiles.

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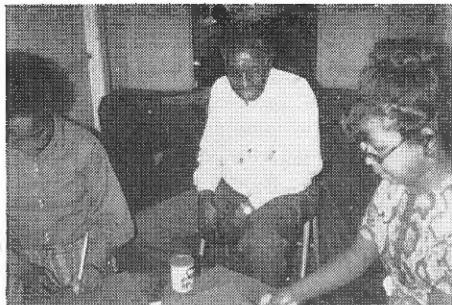
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TOP: J. B. Wright and friends make posters.



BOTTOM: Mrs. Carl Sanford and Mrs. J. B. Wright compose a chant.

'Great Day' At Dorchester Center

The youngest person was less than 10 years of age; the oldest was more than 80, but there was something for everyone who participated in the Lay Life and Work "Great Day" at Dorchester Center, Saturday, November 5.

Miss Augusta Pettie and Mrs. Arthur C. Curtright, both of Savannah First Church, were in charge. Games and songs opened the sessions, helping us to talk with each other and to unwind.

"Why Man Creates", a sound motion picture depicting man's creative urge despite all sorts of obstacles, formed the backdrop for attempts at creativity within the group. Posters, collages, and a chant were created around the theme of "Rejoicing."

After lunch, served by the Dorchester Center staff, participants took time to play basketball, to stroll in the autumn sunshine, to inspect the recently completed swimming and wading pools, and just to chat. Pastor Neil Moseley, of Savannah First Church, up since 4 A. M., even dared to take a nap!

Everyone pitched in to improve the looks of the grounds. Although the general appearance was already good, we picked up bits of paper and plastic ma-

UCBWM ADOPTS 1972 BUDGET

The United Church Board for World Ministries adopted a 1972 budget of \$4,480,883, down almost \$1.5 million from this year.

Each of the six regions of its mission fields suffered severe cutbacks. The European operation budget is now \$124,963, down from \$161,053 last year; the Near East Field is \$448,890, down from \$594,793; the African allocation is \$810,956 as against \$1,027,032 in 1971; southern Asia will receive \$541,646, down from \$690,618; the Pacific area is \$925,785, down from \$1,140,895, and Latin America is \$266,538, down from \$359,825.

The Rev. Myles H. Walburn, treasurer, told corporate members of the Board in their 162nd annual meeting here that the reduction in budget was due to a decrease in giving in the churches as a result of "some disaffection with the church, lowered attendance and the general state of the economy." He also stated that the Board has been drawing on its financial investment reserves for several years, rather than cut its budget. He said that this deficit spending will cease with the 1972 budget.

terials, gathered soft drink bottles, cleaned out the church pew racks, and tried to improve the situation.

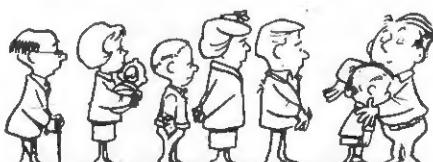
Back inside, we checked ourselves out on the things that we say are most important to us, and tried to re-commit ourselves to lasting values.

Mrs. Curtright lifted up the contents of the Lay Life and Work packets, demonstrating some of the ways they might be used in local churches.

Closing worship was simple but effective. With our arms around each other as we gathered in a circle, we shared what we had enjoyed during the day. Then everyone sang "Amen."

Supper served by the staff brought to a delicious climax the "Great Day" at Dorchester. When can we have another one?

A Good Steward Lets His Compassion Work Overtime



W. J. Andes Presents Certificate to Arnold Slater as Mrs. Slater looks on.

Arnold Slater Honored At Alabama - Tennessee Association Meeting

The Reverend Arnold Slater, pastor of Pilgrim Church, Chattanooga, for 27 years, received a Certificate of Recognition at the Annual Meeting of the Alabama-Tennessee Association, held Saturday, October 23, at Belvidere, Tenn. Presentation was made by W. J. Andes, Conference Minister. Arnold and Pauline Slater will retire as of December 31, 1971, following a long, varied and productive ministry.

In the morning session, delegates and visitors, in four groups, considered their participation in General Synod's four major priorities: The Faith Crisis, Racial Justice, Peace and U. S. Power, and Strengthening the Local Church.

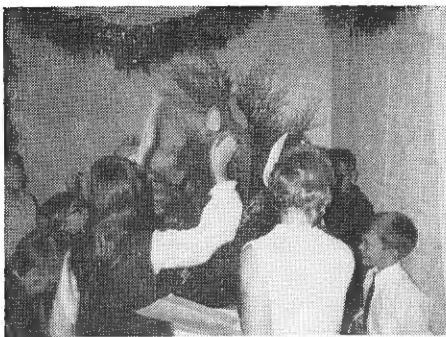
Dr. Richard Braun, home on furlough from service in Ghana, described the ministry of himself and Mrs. Braun, as well as helping to up-date our notions about missionary work there and elsewhere.

Officers elected were: Moderator, Donald B. Orander; Vice Moderator, Wilson Q. Welch; Secretary, Mrs. Marie Jones; Treasurer, J. Hubert Richter. Committee Chairmen are: Education, Mrs. F. F. Cameron; Outreach, Donald P. Flick; Church and Ministry, S. Lawrence Johnson; Nominating, Arnold Slater.

The Rev. Serge F. Hummon

The Rev. Serge F. Hummon will assume responsibility as Director for the Division of Evangelism and Church Extension, effective January 1, 1972. He will serve until such time as a General Secretary may be assigned to administer affairs of the division.

The Rev. Mr. Hummon will continue to share his services with S.E. Conference on a limited basis.



BONANZA CELEBRATES FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

Bonanza United Church of Christ, Jonesboro, Ga., celebrated its 5th anniversary November 7, 1971, with the Rev. George Nishimoto as guest speaker at the morning service, and a potluck supper in the evening.

The Rev. Mr. Nishimoto, a "talent scout for Christ" with the U.C.C., spoke on "A More Excellent Way"; the list of the 100 charter members was also read.

A beautiful birthday cake, baked and decorated by Mrs. Dot Purl, graced the table at the evening fellowship. Slides depicting "way back when" were shown.

Since its inception, Bonanza U.C.C. has been involved in the life of the community, working with the Clayton-Highlands Civic Club, Clayton Eagles Football Team, Boy Scout Troop 902, Cub Scout Pack 902, Girl Scouts and Brownies, and Bonanza Lions' Club.

The congregation plans to build its new building in 1972 on a four-acre site, presently being used by the football teams. Last summer the County Recreation Department utilized the property.

Church members plan to see to it that the church does not stop growing, inwardly as well as outwardly.

—Mrs. Lorelei Bonner

Huntsville Sock And Mitten Tree

In December 1970 the SEC photographer happened to be at Huntsville United Church when the "Sock and Mitten Tree" was decorated. According to the Huntsville *United Church News*, the tree will again be featured as part of the congregation's giving to others.

Each December the children decorate the tree with items that will later be sent to the Winnebago Children's Home in Neillsville, Wisconsin. Originally only socks and mittens were brought for the tree, but over the years the need for other items has increased to include shirts, gloves, toothbrushes, ball point pens, hair clasps, scarves, and games.

Youth Travel Seminar 1972

Time is short for signing up for the Work, Study, Travel Seminar to Israel in 1972. Some young people are already planning to participate.

Dates: June 4 - July 13

Costs About \$875 from LaGrange and return to LaGrange.

Included are: briefing at LaGrange College, LaGrange, Ga.; transportation to Atlanta and return; air fare Atlanta to Tel Aviv and return; three weeks' travel in Israel; a few days in Greece; debriefing at LaGrange College.

It's a great in-depth experience of work, study, travel, and relating to people!

Arrangements must be made early in the year with the airline and the kibbutz. For details, write either: Rev. Emilie F. Pitcock, P. O. Box 29883, Atlanta, Ga. 30329, or Dr. Charles F. McCook, LaGrange College, LaGrange, Ga. 30240.

Youth Exchange Adds Special Study Programs

The study of current social issues will be a new dimension of the International Christian Youth Exchange program for 1971-72. Each year the program gives young people between the ages of 16 and 19 an opportunity to live with a family in another country while continuing their high school studies.

This year the 520 participants will also select five major issues from the economic, political, cultural and religious fields to be explored through guided reading, group study, field trips, conferences, and interviews. U.C.C. teenagers interested in participating in the ICYE program should write to the UCC representative, the Rev. Edward Schlingman, Voluntary Service Center, Pottstown, Pa. 91464, for brochures and application forms.

CHRISTMAS FOR TWELVE DAYS? (From Page 1)

ANY DRAMATIC OR MUSICAL PRESENTATION.

8. January 6, Twelfth Night — POT LUCK SUPPER, CONTESTS AND DEDICATION OF GIFTS FOR THE NEEDY.

No one church should attempt all of the above, but their variety suggests that large or small, urban, suburban or rural churches can restore Christian meaning and fellowship as they celebrate the Gift of God in the coming of Jesus Christ.

Magazine SHARE Now Being Published

Three denominations, including the United Church of Christ, are experimenting with a new publication for church school teachers. Designed as a publication in which Christian education leaders can exchange ideas, the magazine will be called *Share*.

A limited number of copies of the pilot issue are available from the Southeast Conference office. If you have not seen it, write for a copy before the supply is exhausted.



Rev. James L. Welden, president of GCC, presents check to Rev. and Mrs. Edward Driscoll.

Rev. E. A. Driscoll Honored

At the Celebration of the nineteenth-year ministry of the Georgia Council of Churches, Tuesday, November 23, in Atlanta, Ga., the Rev. Edward A. Driscoll, Executive Secretary, was honored. The Rev. Mr. Driscoll, who has headed the Council for more than seventeen years, will retire effective December 31, 1971.

A purse and a plaque were presented to Dr. Driscoll. Mrs. Eva Driscoll was also recognized for her many efforts on behalf of the Council.

The Final Yearly Business Session, held at the same time, included official actions necessary to relinquish the Charter of Incorporation. An Audio-Visual presentation on tape and slides depicted the witness of the Georgia Council of Churches during some very trying periods. This was followed by a Panel which sought to explain the new Georgia Interchurch Association, successor to the Council.

Under the leadership of Rev. Robert T. Thomas, Acting University Chaplain at Emory University, a Celebration of Thanksgiving and Anticipation closed the day.

Our thanks to Ed and Eva Driscoll for their tireless and effective ministry. Ed's retirement will not bring an end to involvements, but rather just a different arena.

LITANY: The Voice of Martin Luther King

(The following Litany is appropriate for use on or near the birthday of Martin Luther King Jr., January 15.)

"A great revolution is taking place in our world, a social revolution in the minds and souls of men. And it has been transformed into a unified voice, crying out, 'We want to be free!'"

FREEDOM — NOW! FREEDOM — NOW! FREE AT LAST, FREE AT LAST, THANK GOD A'MIGHTY, WE'RE FREE AT LAST.

"It may get me crucified. I may even die. But I want it said even if I die in the struggle that 'He died to make man free!'" (1962)

FOR FREEDOM, CHRIST HAS SET US FREE; LET US STAND FAST AND NEVER SUBMIT AGAIN TO THE YOKE OF SLAVERY.

"So listen to me, children: Put on your marching shoes; don'cha get weary; though the path ahead may be dark and dreary; we're walking for freedom, children." (1962)

THEY THAT WAIT FOR THE LORD SHALL RENEW THEIR STRENGTH, THEY SHALL MOUNT UP WITH WINGS LIKE EAGLES, THEY SHALL RUN AND NOT BE WEARY, THEY SHALL WALK AND NOT FAINT.

"In the spirit of the darkness of this hour, we must not despair, we must not become bitter — we must not lose faith in our white brothers." (1963 — after the bombing of a church in Birmingham where four little girls were killed.)

GRANT US FAITH AND COURAGE NOT TO GROW WEARY. HELP US TO SEEK STRENGTH TO OVERCOME THE EVIL THAT IS PRESENT ALL ABOUT US.

"I say to you today, my friends, even though we face the difficulties of today and tomorrow I still have a dream. It is a dream deeply rooted in the American dream. I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up, live out the true meaning of its creed: 'We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal.'"

LET US NOT SHATTER THAT DREAM, BUT LET THAT DREAM WHICH WAS IN HIM BE ALSO IN US, O GOD.

"The question is not whether we will be extremists but what kind of extremists we will be. Will we be extremists for hate or will we be extremists for love? Will we be extremists for the preservation of injustice — or will we be extremists for the cause of justice?" (1963)

STIR US UP, O LORD, WHO ARE AT EASE. USE US SO THAT JUSTICE MAY ROLL DOWN LIKE WATERS AND RIGHTEOUSNESS LIKE AN EVER-FLOWING STREAM.

"Some of you have knives, and I ask you to put them up. Some of you have arms, and I ask you to put them up. Get the weapon of nonviolence, the breast-plate of righteousness, the armor of truth and just keep marching." (1964)

SAVE US AND HELP US, WE BESEECH THEE, O LORD.

"I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word in reality. That is why right, temporarily defeated, is stronger than evil triumphant." (1964)

SAVE US AND HELP US, WE BESEECH THEE, O LORD.

"What good does it do to be able to eat at the lunch counter if you can't buy a hamburger?" (1965)

FORGIVE US, O LORD, WHEN WE LIVE IN THE MIDST OF PLENTY WHILE OUR BROTHER KNOWS NOT WHERE TO TURN FOR HIS DAILY BREAD.

"The Negro needs the white man to free him from his fears. The white man needs the Negro to free him from his guilt." (1966)

CHRIST IS OUR PEACE, WHO HAS MADE US BOTH ONE, AND HAS BROKEN DOWN THE DIVIDING WALL OF HOSTILITY, SO MAY HE ALSO RECONCILE US TO GOD IN ONE BODY THROUGH THE CROSS.

"Like anybody, I would like to live a long life. Longevity has its place. But I'm not concerned about that now. I just want to do God's will . . . I've looked over and I've seen the promised land. I may not get there with you, but I want you to know tonight that we as a people will get to the promised land." (April 4, 1968, Memphis)

DEATH IS SWALLOWED UP IN VICTORY. O DEATH, WHERE IS THY STING? THE STING OF DEATH IS SIN AND THE POWER OF SIN IS THE LAW. BUT THANKS BE TO GOD, WHO GIVES US THE VICTORY THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST. AMEN.



United Church Tours 1972

We have just learned that of the 226 persons who traveled on the United Church tours in 1971, two were from Alabama and one was from Knoxville, Tennessee. We plan to get in touch with these persons to learn whether they will share the excitement of their ventures with our readers.

Meanwhile, you should know about the 1972 tours so as to plan to participate in one of them:

Tour No. 1 — Puerto Rico, with option-trip to St. Thomas, Jan. 25 - Feb. 2.

Tour No. 2 — Holy Land, including Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, Tiberius, Nazareth, Haifa, and Rome, Jan. 27 - Feb. 10.

Tour No. 3 — South Pacific, including Fiji, New Zealand, Australia, Honolulu, Feb. 2 - 22.

Tour No. 4 — South Seas, including Micronesia, Hong Kong, Djakarta, jog-Jakarta, Bali, Manila, Honolulu, Feb. 19 - Mar. 12.

Tour No. 5 — European Circle, including Lisbon, Geneva, Milan, Zurich, Heilbronn, Frankfort, Paris, London, June 26 - July 17.

Tour No. 6 — Holy Land Study Tour, including Geneva, Jerusalem, Kefar, Blum Kibbutz, Nazareth, Bearsheba, Nicosia, Cairo, July 3 - 24.

Tour No. 7 — British Isles and Scandinavia, including Killarney, Dublin, Belfast, London, Copenhagen, Oslo, The Fjords, Bergen, Edinburg, Aug. 2 - 23.

Tour No. 8 — Orient, including Tokyo, Sendai, Hakone, Kyoto, Hong Kong, Bangkok, Manila, Honolulu, Sept. 21 - October 12.

(Continued on Page 7)

Another Welfare Myth

Have you ever joked about the song "Welfare Cadillac" or about how many welfare recipients have color televisions? Well, if you have, you may be surprised to learn that the welfare affluence which such possessions are intended to symbolize is just another myth.

Nobody has yet even tried to explain how a Mississippi welfare mother could ever manage to pay her rent, buy food and clothing for herself and three children, and still purchase that new Cadillac or that new T.V. on the \$59 per month which she receives as "welfare." And while Mississippi's welfare payment level is absurdly inadequate, even the New Jersey welfare payment — most liberal in the nation — which is \$341 per month for such a family of four, wouldn't permit such luxuries.

By almost any standard, the welfare payment level is far below the minimum most of us would need for simple survival. The U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics in 1969 placed that minimum level at \$458 per month (\$5,500 per year) for a family of four, and that figure was endorsed by the White House Conference on Food, Nutrition, and Health. A Gallup Poll reported in 1970 that the American public felt a family of four could not get by on less than \$520 a month (\$6,240 a year). And, of course, those 1969 and 1970 levels of minimum adequacy must be up-dated to today's inflated economy.

By whatever definition of adequacy you choose, welfare payments throughout the United States are nothing more than guaranteed annual poverty! They mean that the welfare family will probably live in crowded substandard housing infested with rats and roaches; they will send malnourished, ill-clothed children off to inferior schools; they will eat starchy, unbalanced meals, on which they will probably become obese and eventually become ill; and day in and day out they will lead frustrating, frustrated lives. Welfare is the "good life" only for those who have never experienced it.

A city zoo has installed a large mirror in one of its empty cages. A sign under the mirror, with the same design and typography as signs on the other animal cages, says: "You are looking at the most dangerous animal in the world. It alone, of all creatures, has exterminated entire species and has now achieved the power to wipe out all life on earth."

—United Church Herald

Dr. David Stowe Reports To UCBWM

The Christian ministry in Southern Africa will continue, despite attempts to repress and intimidate missionaries and religious officials, the Rev. Dr. David M. Stowe, executive vice-president of the United Church Board for World Ministries announced at the recent UCBWM meeting at New Britain, Conn.

"In South Africa we were named co-conspirator in a trial of the Anglican Dean of Johannesburg whose crime was aiding desperately needy dependents of victims of apartheid," Dr. Stowe said. "The legal effects of his conviction on the 'American Board Mission' are not yet clear."

Meanwhile, two missionary families have been expelled or refused re-entry. One has been relocated in Botswana, in a very strategic location to aid refugees. We will continue to press for racial justice," he added.

Dr. Stowe said that the East Pakistani situation had become "one of the principal horrors of the twentieth century," threatening to drag the whole sub-continent into war.

"Our service division has been very active in aid for nine million refugees in India," he reported. "Unfortunately, almost nothing can be done inside Pakistan. We have called for cessation of U. S. aid to Pakistan, and we have kept close watch on political possibilities."

The dramatic torpedoing of U. S. foreign aid programs by the Senate "may be

very constructive," Dr. Stowe said. "Powerful isolationist forces would doubtless like to sink permanently the enterprise of international partnership for development. But we have had a poor thing to fight for in recent foreign aid programs. Now we can work wholeheartedly for a better package."

Dr. Stowe stressed the need for Christians to take an "even-handed approach" to proposed compromises in the Middle East. He said that such compromises "represent the only alternative to disaster" for the Middle East and the world. United Church Board executives are involved in ecumenical efforts to re-establish negotiations.

Racial justice, world peace and church renewal are new priorities for the Board's work, and demand a reallocation of resources, money and people, he declared.

"We live in a time when instant satisfaction, instant justice, instant redemption have become part of our expectations. But when the church in mission expects its projects to have instant solutions, it is betraying one of its primary responsibilities," Dr. Stowe said.

"I'm not urging patience or temporizing. I'm urging a realistic conception of what we ought to expect and therefore what we ought to attempt in terms of fulfilling these priority commitments."

UNITED CHURCH TOURS . . .

(Continued from Page 3)

Tour No. 9 — Where East Meets West, including Istanbul, Izmir, Ephesus, New Delhi, Madras, Veilore, Bangalore, Bombay, Ahmadanger, Vadala, Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Athens, October 12 - November 9.

Tour No. 10 — A Visit with the American Indian, beginning at Rapid City, South Dakota, and including Pine Ridge Reservation, Newton, White Shield, Bismarck, Pierre, Ft. Thompson Reservation, Milk's Camp Industries, July 22 - 31.

These are *tours with a difference*. Although you enjoy the same sight-seeing which other agencies provide, you also get to some out-of-the-way places, visit with local people, and see your church at work.

For itinerary, cost and other information on any of these tours, write to United Church Tours, Stewardship Council, 1505 Race Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102.



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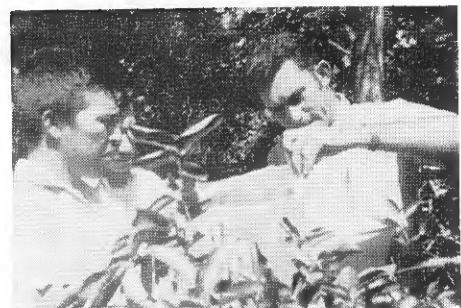
William J. Andes

Disaster In Pakistan

Rev. B. Kenneth Anthony, General Secretary of the World Service Division, UCBWM, called the disaster in Pakistan similar to the genocide of the Jews in World War II. Just returned from a fact-finding trip to India, Mr. Anthony reported that fifty-thousand new refugees per day are streaming from Pakistan into the Bengali region of India swelling the number of refugees well beyond the 8.5 million announced earlier. To compound the situation, floods and monsoon rains have forced Indian residents of the region also

to flee in almost equal numbers. Crude, makeshift hovels, no sanitary facilities, a woman tending a dead husband, a mother tossing her dead baby into the flood waters — these are some of the impressions which Mr. Anthony reports.

Church World Service, through which the United Church of Christ works in meeting disasters, is seeking to raise \$385,000 as a part of an international appeal for \$4,000,000. Special contributions should be marked "Pakistani Relief" and sent to the Conference office or to the U.C.B.W.M.



Honduran Extension Agent demonstrating and teaching grafting of citrus trees.

Diakonia Honduras

Although the Evangelical Mission to Honduras began fifty years ago, it was just five years ago that the work took a very practical turn which we North Americans know as Diakonia Honduras. In cooperation with Mennonites, Moravians, and the Evangelical & Reformed Church of Honduras, our UCBWM gives full support to this program of rural community development.

Recently, John Steva, a U.C.C. missionary attached to Diakonia Honduras, cooperated with another missionary and a Honduran pastor in giving five seminary students a course on community development. They took the students on a tour of health, cooperative, and job placement agencies, the purpose being to help the seminarians gain confidence through being able to offer their villages the concrete practical services these agencies had to offer. In Honduras, this sort of leadership training in practical matters of community development goes hand in hand with a theological education. Through Diakonia Honduras, we help.

No Sunday Relief

From Missouri comes a letter written to the Bayer aspirin people:

"Dear Mr. Bayer: You manufacture aspirin that relieves suffering, colds and fever. Your aspirin makes it possible for a person to get out of bed and fight off headaches, muscle spasms and bad nerves. These tablets work wonders Monday through Friday and especially on Saturday. But many people get no relief on Sunday. They are unable to attend church. Is it possible for you to examine your tablet and put an ingredient in it that will work on Sunday? Yours truly,

"A Church School Teacher"
—Penn Northeast Conference News